



10-15-04 PCT/PTO 14 OCT 2004  
Atty. Docket No. 60,152-1074

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Wojciechowski, et al.

Serial Number: 10/501,366

Filed: July 14, 2004

Title: SELF-PIERCING FEMALE FASTENER, METHOD OF FORMING  
A SEALED FEMALE FASTENER AND PANEL ASSEMBLY

Attorney Docket No.: 60,152-1074

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 97 and in compliance with Rule 56, Applicant hereby makes of record the items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08A. Under the provisions set forth whereby the office waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, Attorney for applicant is not submitting a copy of any of the U.S. noted references referred to on the enclosed PTO/SB08A, due to the fact that the above noted application was filed on July 14, 2004. Copies of the foreign references are enclosed.

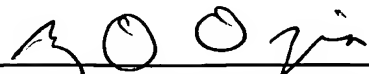
None of these items noted on the PTO/SB08A disclose the inventive concepts claimed in the subject application.

Should there be a fee associated with this document, please charge it to Deposit Account No. 08-2789. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**

**October 14, 2004**  
Date

  
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**Gregory D. DeGrazia, Reg. No. 48,944**  
The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite #101  
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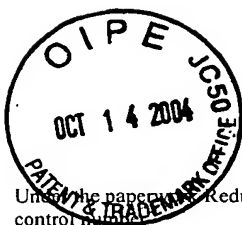
Enclosures:  
PTO/SB08 & two foreign references



**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

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Tracy L. Smith



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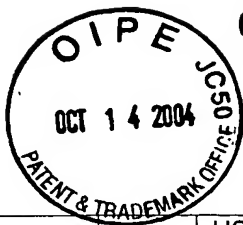
PTO/SB/08A (08-03) (modified)  
Approved for use through 07/31/2006 OMB 0651-0031  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/499,781
		Filing Date	June 21, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Wojciechowski, et al.
		Art Unit	Unknown
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	60,152-1081	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-1,112,525	10-06-1914	Darling	
		US-1,919,552	07-25-1933	Hasselquist	
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		US-2002/0172573 A1	11-21-2002	Pamer et al.	
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<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-D448,659 S	10-02-2001	Pamer et al.	
		US-D457,054 S	05-14-2002	Pamer et al.	

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sub>6</sub>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		EP 0 561 715 A1	03-22-1993	Luczak		
		EP 0 864 766 B1	03-24-2004	Mueller		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 C.F.T. 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.